Quantum Computing in Plain English

Quantum computing utilizes the principles of quantum mechanics to process information. Unlike classical computers, which use bits that are either 0 or 1, quantum computers use qubits, which can be both 0 and 1 simultaneously. This allows for massive parallelism and potential speedups in solving complex problems such as factoring large numbers or simulating molecules.

However, quantum computing is still in its infancy. Issues like qubit stability and error correction need to be resolved before it becomes mainstream. Major companies like Google, IBM, and startups like Rigetti are investing heavily in the research and development of practical quantum systems.